## TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE Transcriber's Office FLOOR DEBATE

March 26, 2002 LB 1085, 1206, 1309 LR 331

artist. I'm the catcher, because when you're bigger, and you hope stronger, you're not the one who flies through the air when somebody is to be caught. She would never be the catcher for me. So I position myself on my little swing, and I'm swinging as far and as high as I can. Then she does the same thing, but here is the catcher, the clincher. She cannot do the job that needs to be done if she wants to hang onto the swing that she's on and reach me too. There is a space between us and the space is greater than the combined length of her arms and her body in between. So to get from point A, where she is, to point B, where I am, she is going to have to let go of her swing. There is a period when she is going to be in mid-air, and her welfare is entrusted to me. We have practiced. We have worked together to such an extent that there is no doubt in her mind that I'm going to catch her, and when she lets go of that swing and flies through the air, I'm there to catch her. But you cannot hold onto both swings at the same time. To move from where we are we have to let go of the cigarette tax increase that you all, a majority of you have said is the direction we ought to go. You know that is not going to work.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: So the sooner we can face reality and have our votes reflect that reality, the sooner we are in a position to move to something that may work. It is a cinch that that cigarette tax increase will not work, but we cannot get to anything else if a majority of my colleagues want to hold onto that. You will stay on your swing. You will be what you consider safe, but you will never move from point A to point B, and unless you get to point B, you are not successful. So I hope when we do come to some votes that we will do the necessary thing, and that's to get rid of that cigarette tax increase. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Mr. Clerk, items for the record.

CLERK: I have some items, Mr. President. Thank you. Amendments to be printed: Senator Suttle to LB 1206, Senator Wehrbein to LB 1309. And new study resolutions; LR 331 by